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Docket No.: 3273-0121P
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

In re Patent Application of:
Yasutaka ISHII et al.

Application No.: 09/622,001

Confirmation No.: 5966

Filed: September 22, 2000

Art Unit: 1626

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING ORGANIC
COMPOUNDS USING CATALYTIC IMIDE
COMPOUNDS

Examiner: T. A. Solola

REPLY BRIEF

MS Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This refers to the Examiner's Answer that was mailed on July 22, 2005.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101.
Examiner's Answer, page 6.

On page 2 of the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner refers to "grouping of claims" practice. It is respectfully pointed out that "grouping of claims" practice is no longer in effect, and that it has been replaced by "separate argument" practice as described in 37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(vii).

35 USC 112, second paragraph

At the bottom of page 3 of the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner alleges that "35 USC 112, 2nd requires a claim to be clear, distinct and particularly points [sic] out the invention". This is